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January 16, 2009

Mr. Robert W. Varney
Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency - Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023

Re: Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site,
Rest of River Corrective Measures Study Supplement

Dear Mr. Varney:

I want to thank you and your staff for meeting with us in Boston on December 19th to discuss our supplemental "ecologically sensitive alternative" for the Rest of River site as part of our ongoing efforts to complete the Corrective Measures Study (CMS).

As I indicated at the meeting, I fully endorse your suggestion that as a follow up, our technical staffs, including the Commonwealth's, should meet as soon as possible to discuss the additional remedial concept that we outlined and develop a work plan to more fully analyze that concept. We have been working with your staff to try to schedule that meeting and hope to have it arranged within the next few weeks. We will make ourselves available whenever is convenient for your staff, as well as the Commonwealth's.

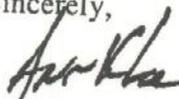
As I also mentioned at our December meeting, we are working diligently to prepare our response to EPA's comments on the draft CMS. As you know, in September EPA provided GE with over 160 comments requesting that GE provide extensive additional information and conduct additional analyses to supplement its March 2008 Corrective Measures Study (CMS) Report. GE received additional comments from EPA in October. At that time, we indicated that we would need additional time to conduct the analyses requested and prepare an appropriate response. GE staff has been devoting extensive time and resources over the past few months to respond to the EPA's requests. In our December meeting, I gave you an update on our ongoing work and explained that GE will not be in a position to submit a CMS Supplement by the end of January 2009.

At the same time, we recognize EPA's interest in moving forward expeditiously with the remedy selection process and will do everything that we can to provide EPA with the additional analyses and information requested, including further analysis of the new

alternative, so that EPA can proceed with its decision-making based on the best science available. As we discussed, we believe that the alternative we outlined in December should be evaluated simultaneously with, and as an integral part of, the CMS Supplement. Providing EPA with a comprehensive response that includes both the supplemental information relating to the previously analyzed alternatives and our analysis of the new alternative will facilitate a meaningful evaluation of all alternatives and, we believe, lead to a remedy decision with the greatest likelihood of producing an environmentally protective and timely cleanup. We are committed to providing EPA with this comprehensive response with only a short delay after the technical meeting. The Commonwealth agreed with this approach.

We look forward to a meeting between our staffs to discuss this and related matters at EPA's earliest convenience. In the meantime, please feel free to call me if you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of this.

Sincerely,


Ann R. Klee 
Vice President

Corporate Environmental Programs

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Richard Cavagnero, EPA
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